

a diversity of moths belonging to several families, among which there was at least one small unknown Lasiocampid and a diminutive Euproctis also undescribed.

REFERENCES

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Amathes (Paradiarsia) glareosa (Esper) f. *edda* Staudinger on the Mainland of Scotland

By BERNARD KETTLEWELL AND CHARLES GIBSON

Last year (1972), as anticipated, we found the melanic form of this species in northern Caithness. Of 45 *glareosa* taken in three localities, 20 were f. *edda* and from this small sample, it appears that, away from sand dunes, the frequency is about 50 per cent. Previously, over the past few years, one of us (H.B.D.K.) had sampled over 30,000 specimens from 22 localities in Shetland. Here, 97 per cent were f. *edda* on the northern-most island of Unst. Southwards, there was a cline over the 54 miles length of Shetland to Dunrossness, where the frequency is under 2 per cent. Lorimer and Ffennell have recorded this form in Orkney and Fair Isle, 37 and 15 per cent respectively. The majority of f. *edda* from Unst are extremely dark, less so from Dunrossness. Orkney *edda* are substantially paler. The new Caithness specimens are silvery grey but nevertheless quite distinct.

I (H.B.D.K.) have recently figured the Shetland and Orkney *edda* in *The Evolution of Melanism* (1973), and given details of how the frequency of this form may be largely influenced by the predation of migrating birds on their landfall. The Common Gull (*Larus canus*) appears to be one of the main predators. f. *edda* is likely therefore to be found in limited coastal areas of heather peat in Caithness and not in the mountains of Sutherland. Abroad it is found locally on the coasts of Denmark. f. *edda* is dominant to f. *typica* but not completely so, as except in Unst, the majority of heterozygotes are somewhat paler.

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HYPENA OBESALIS TREITSCHKE IN WARWICKSHIRE. — On the night of 26th August 1973, I took here in my m.v. trap a good ♀ specimen of *Hypena obesalis*. This appears to be only the third record of this species in Britain (cf. *Ent. Rec.*, **81**: 336).—
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